(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL POLICY AND PROMOTION, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR): (a) Out of 81,000 acres allotted for salt manufacture in the Kutch district, about 10,000 acres is affected due to steel and coke plants located in the area.

(b) and (c) The Salt Department has taken up the issue with the Gujarat Pollution Control Board, Government of Gujarat, Gandhinagar to discuss the matter for purposive initiatives.

Decline in growth rate of infrastructural industrial areas

†1251. SHRI UDAY PRATAP SINGH: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn towards the declining growth rate of infrastructural industrial areas during the year 2007-08; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor alongwith the number of industries in which the decline has been recorded?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL POLICY AND PROMOTION, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI ASHWANI KUAMR): (a) and (b) The growth of six core infrastructure industries (Crude Oil, Petroleum Refinery Products, Coal, Electricity, Cement and Finished Steel) was 5.7% during April - December, 2007-08 as against 8.9% in the corresponding period of previous year. All core infrastructure industries, except coal, recorded lower growths during April-December, 2007-08 as compared to the corresponding period of last year.

Main reasons for the decline are transportation, local disturbances in some production regions, heavy rainfall and land acquisition and forest clearances for coal, capacity constraints for cement and power sector etc.

SEZs approved for Maharashtra, M.P. and Chhattisgarh

†1252. SHRI BALAVANT *ALIAS* BAL APTE:
SHRI SHREEGOPAL VYAS:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Special Economic Zones approved for Maharashtra, M.P. and hattisgarh as on 1st February, 2008;

(b) the names of Industrial House or Industrial groups under whose ownership maximum number of SEZs will be;

(c) the Zone-wise details of agricultural land and Government barren land under each Special Economic Zone; and

(d) the details of current status of each Special Economic Zone?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) Under the Special

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi